

1 and their omission here is not intended as an expression  
2 of opposition to their inclusion on substantive policy  
3 grounds.

4 We still do need a right to organize and  
5 bargain collectively in the basic law of the State. We need  
6 it because nearly half a million of our working citizens  
7 do not today have any protection whatever in this regard.

8 The National Labor Relations Act to which I  
9 earlier referred covers only those people in interstate  
10 commerce and only those people in interstate commerce who are  
11 employed by employers of some size and substance.

12 In addition the Act excludes people working for  
13 charitable institutions, particularly hospitals and it does  
14 not include any or practically no employees in the service  
15 trades such as waiters, waitresses and parking lot attendants.  
16 This group adds up to five, or nearly five hundred thousand  
17 people in this State and it is not coincidental, I submit,  
18 that this identical group are the ones who according to  
19 federal statistics are earning less than the minimum wage.

20 Now, the statement of a right to organize and  
21 bargain collectively which we ask be included in the new